

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: **David J. Ecker, et al.**

Confirmation no. **7830**

Serial No.: **10/660,122**

Group Art Unit: **1637**

Filed: **9/11/2003**

Examiner: **Angela Marie Bertagna**

Title: **METHOD FOR RAPID DETECTION AND IDENTIFICATION OF BIOAGENTS  
FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AND PRODUCT TESTING**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Preliminary to examination of the above-captioned patent application, please amend the application as follows:

- ☒ **Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 this paper.
- ☒ **Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this paper.